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REPORT

OF THE

BUILDING COMMITTEE

TO THE

SOUTH CONGREGATIONAL SOCIETY.

APRIL, 1862.

BOSTON:
PRINTED BY HENRY W. DUTTON AND SON,
Nos. 90 and 92 Washington Street.
1862.

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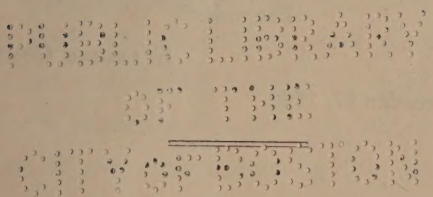

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Nos. 90 and 92 Washington Street.
1862.

From 7.545.6
268,747
Nov. 26, 18

NOTE.

SINCE the following Report was made by the Building Committee, in April last, the financial condition of the Society has improved, the construction account has been closed, and every bill paid. Ten thousand dollars was loaned to the Society on the Treasurer's notes, by fourteen proprietors; and the interest on this amount, and one thousand of the principal, has been paid, and another payment of a thousand dollars, and interest, will be paid before March next, from the surplus income over expenses. And if the result of the sale of pews, now rented, which takes place on the 15th of January next, is favorable, of which the Committee have no doubt, the whole loan will be paid off, and the Society entirely free of debt.

Per order

STANDING COMMITTEE.

Boston, December 27, 1862.

(Dup No 6 in 5549.6 not cent)

REPORT.

The Building Committee of the South Congregational Society present their final Report.

The meeting, at which the Committee was first appointed, was held July 13, 1860, now nearly two years since.

It would be next to an impossibility to effect a move of a Society of thirty-four years' standing by a unanimous vote.

The longer distance to walk for some, the severing old and dear ties with others, and the disinclination for changes, particularly among the older members of the Society, rendered it a difficult and delicate task; but when it was determined by the two-thirds vote proposed, it was almost unanimously coincided in, and we rejoice to believe there are now no heartburnings, and scarcely a regret, at the change.

All present evidences augur well for the future of the Society.

The Committee cannot let the occasion pass without a word of strong commendation of our architect, Mr. N. J. Bradlee, who has been untiring in his zeal, and patient in his endurance, and to whose taste and skill we are indebted for the universal satisfaction now expressed. Nor do we forget the gentlemen who contracted for the various portions of the work on the house, and who, by their faithfulness, have given us a most substantial church edifice, bearing the evidence of thoroughness in all its parts.

The vote of the Proprietors gave the Committee authority to sell the old Church at not less than $35,000, and they were fortunate in finding a purchaser at an early day, who allowed us the privilege of occupying it until the completion of the new house, by paying as rent, the interest of the purchase money.

While the negotiation for the sale of the old church had been progressing, the Committee had also in view the purchase of the site for the new house, and the two were accomplished almost simultaneously.

This was in October, 1860. You all remember the events of the early days of November, which fell like a pall over the country, blasting the brilliant promises of the preceding months.

Had the Committee been able, they would then gladly have retraced their steps, and rested content for awhile longer in the old church; but having sold it, and bought and paid for the land for the new, there was no course left but to press on in the duty assigned them.

Still, the doubt as to whether actual hostilities would take place induced a pause before making any contracts, in the hope that the future would look more promising; and after some delay, it looking less threatening, and a general belief having gained ground that war would not ensue, contracts were made, and were only completed and the work well commenced when the attack was made on Fort Sumter.

The work once begun there was no alternative but to press vigorously on to completion.

We now occupy the new Church.

The whole cost of the Church has been:—

For Land, . . .	$24,484 00	
Building, . .	48,012 31	
Furniture, . .	6,000 00	
Net rents, paid for use of old house, . .	1,562 62	
		$80,058 93

Amount received:—		
Subscriptions, including sale of old Church, . .	$69,514 20	
Cash received, in settlement for new pews, . .	533 00	
		$70,047 20
Cash deficit, . . .		$10,011 73

To provide for which several gentlemen have agreed to loan the money to the Society, on the Treasurer's note, bearing interest at 6 per cent., on condition that the surplus income be pledged for liquidation of the amount, (as also all amounts, in cash, received for future sales of pews) payments to be made on account as fast as ten per cent. of the sum is in the hands of the Treasurer.

For liquidation of this indebtedness we shall have the following means:—

If the rate of taxation is fixed at 10 per cent. our income

From pews *sold* will be	$5,492
" " rented, ...	3,472
	$8,964

Our expenses, provided you appropriate all the estimates, including interest on the debt, ...	$7,200
Leaving surplus income, ...	$1,764

There remain only nine unrented pews, of a valuation of $2,120, which would give an income of about $350, in addition to the above.

It is fair to presume that we shall be able, from time to time, to sell pews, and the Committee would recommend that the Standing Committee have full power to sell the remaining pews, at such time and in such manner as they may deem best, and at prices that will, in the aggregate, provide sufficient funds to liquidate the entire indebtedness of the Society.

The amount of pews, now held by the Society, is		$23,820
Amount cash indebtedness, .	$10,000	
" scrip " . .	5,400	
		15,400
Surplus of pews, . .		$8,420

It should be mentioned that not one person availed of the right to receive cash at the Committee's valuation, for his old pews, all preferring the Society's scrip.

Heartily congratulating the Society upon the success of the enterprise your confidence appointed us to superintend, and praying that your present prosperity may be long continued, this Report is respectfully submitted by

H. P. Kidder,
Wm. Brigham,
Elisha Copeland,
Thos. Haviland,
Geo. P. Sanger,
} *Building Committee.*

Boston, April 21, 1862.